



Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer
Director

Date: 7/29/14

Tamara Forney
1624 E Pleasantville Drive
Des Moines, IA 50320

Date Complaint Received: 7/11/14

Complaint Received By: DHS

Complaint Description: The Department received a complaint concerning a child in her care getting hurt while playing in back yard, child in back yard displaying inappropriate behavior, and potential improper use of substitute.

Rule Basis: Findings considered in accordance to Rule(s) 110.5(9)a "Gives careful supervision at all times..." and 110.5(9)d "If absence is planned, care is provided by a DHS-approved substitute..."

Findings: Unannounced spot check conducted on 7/28/14. Provider had recently been through a random spot check from another worker and is currently under a corrective plan with that worker to be re-checked this fall.

Tamara described an incident from earlier this month when a child in her care was in the back yard. This child and another child found a pruning device and were attempting to trim some branches from a shrub in the back yard. The child did receive a cut on his hand. Tamara cleaned the wound and notified the mother who was able to seek medical treatment for the child. Tamara admitted she was inside the home attending to the needs of two younger children at the time of this occurrence. We had lengthy review of proper supervision and access to tools/yard equipment.

Tamara described an incident where one of the children in her care was in the back yard playing with several other children. This child was reported to be making inappropriate comments and suggestions with and to other children. Provider visited with the child about this behavior and reported the problem to the child's mother.

Tamara admitted that she has at times left the children in the care of her adult daughter and/or the older children in the care of her oldest son while she has attended an outside appointment. We conducted lengthy review regarding who is an allowable substitute, the files and paperwork she would need to maintain for the approved substitute and how parents will need back-up providers if she chooses not to use a substitute.

Resolution: Per the information obtained during spot check visit, there is a preponderance of evidence to indicate provider was not in compliance with providing proper supervision when one child was injured in the yard, and when another child was conducting inappropriate behavior. There is also

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evidence to indicate the provider has been out of compliance with proper use of a substitute approved by DHS during past periods of absence. Supervision and substitute policy were reviewed at length with this newer provider. The two children involved in the lack of proper supervision no longer attend this childcare home so the inappropriate behavior has been eliminated.

During spot check, worker observed inappropriate sleeping arrangement for a child under the age of one year. Worker required provider to correct the situation and reviewed policy.

Provider is currently working through an ongoing corrective action request with another compliance worker and is due to be re-checked this fall. This worker encouraged provider to seek assistance from Childcare Resource and Referral and shared card for her local worker. Ongoing compliance with State requirements will continue to be monitored by the Department.

Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Earl Crow".

Earl Crow
Child Development Home Compliance Checks
DHS, Story County
(515) 268-7106

C. Mark Chappelle
Social Work Supervisor
(515) 993-1705